

Definitions

Simple definitions

- A doctor **is** a person who gives medical treatment to people.
- Aluminum **is** a metal which is produced from Bauxite.

The language construction of a definition:

- Things to be defined +verb +general class word

A botanist

is

a person

+ "wh" word + particular characteristic

Who

studies plants

Three types of mistakes may occur :

1- An example may be given rather than a definition.

Ex: **A scientist is like Luis Pasteur**

2- The general class or the particular characteristic may be omitted from the definition, then it will be incomplete.

Ex: **A certificate is given to a student when he graduates**

3- The word to be defined may be used in the definition itself.

Ex: **A botanist is the person who studies botany**

- Plastics are compounds made with long chains of carbon atoms.

The “wh” word has been omitted

- **Plastics are compounds which are made with long chains of carbon atoms.**
- **A fossil is an inorganic trace which is buried by natural processes and subsequently permanently preserved.**

Botany **is the science of the structure of plants.**

- Linguistics **may be defined as** the science of language.
- **Write out the definitions of the subjects given below :**
- **Demography – study – population growth and its structure.**
- **Astronomy – science – sun, moon, stars and plants.**